

Sage Advice

Philippians 4:1-9

Introduction

I Paul Expressed His Love

- A. He referred to the Philippians as:
 - 1. His **brothers**
 - a. Those whom he loved - Phil 2:12; Matt 3:17; 17:5
 - b. Those whom he longed for - Phil 1:8
 - 2. His **joy** and crown - 1 Thess 2:19-20
- B. He instructed them to **stand** firm in the Lord - 1 Cor 15:58

II Paul Expressed His Concern

- A. He **pleaded** with Euodia and Syntyche:
 - 1. To **agree** with each other in the Lord - Jn 17:22-23
- B. He requested his yokefellow:
 - 1. To **help** these women - Matt 5:23-24; 18:15-17
- C. He commended these women as those:
 - 1. Who have **contended** at his side for the gospel - Phil 1:27
 - 2. Whose **names** are in the Book of Life - Rev 21:27

III Paul Expressed His Joy

- A. **Rejoice** in the Lord always - Phil 1:18; 2:17; 3:1
 - 1. "I will say it again: Rejoice!"
- B. Let your **gentleness** be evident to all - Eph 4:2-3
 - 1. The Lord is near - James 5:8; Heb 13:5
- C. Do not be **anxious** about anything - Matt 6:25-34
 - 1. But in everything
 - a. By **prayer** - Phil 3:13-14; Ps 27:4
 - b. By petition - Matt 7:7-8
 - c. With **thanksgiving** - Eph 5:19-20; 1 Thess 5:16-18
 - 2. Present your requests to God and the **peace** of God:
 - a. Will guard your **hearts** - Rom 5:1; 1Tim 1:2; Jn 14:27
 - b. Will guard your **minds** in Christ Jesus

IV Paul Expressed His Vision

- A. He wanted them to think about: - 1 Thess 5:21-22
 - 1. Whatever is **true** - Jn 17:17; 2 Tim 2:15

- 2. Whatever is noble - 1 Tim 3:8, 11; Titus 2:2
- 3. Whatever is right - Lk 1:6
- 4. Whatever is **pure** - Phil 1:9-10; 2:14-15
- 5. Whatever is lovely - Prov 24:3-4
- 6. Whatever is **admirable** - 2 Cor 10:5
- 7. Whatever is excellent - 2 Pt 1:5-8
- 8. Whatever is **praiseworthy** - Ps 19:14; 2 Cor 10:5
- B. He wanted them to put into practice - 1 Cor 4:16; 11:1
 - 1. Whatever they had **learned**
 - 2. Whatever they had received
 - 3. Whatever they had **heard** from Paul
 - 4. Whatever they had seen in Paul
- C. He wanted them to be confident
 - a. The God of **peace** will be with you - Heb 13:20-21

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. What are your "Top 3 Pieces of Advice for Life"?
2. How does Paul's agape love and affection for his fellow believers challenge you? Is this the mark of your life?
3. The situation with Euodia and Syntyche reminds us that even godly believers can find themselves in conflict. What is Paul's advice? What else does the Bible say about how to overcome conflict? [Hint: Matt 5:23-24 and 18:15-17]? Are you in a "conflict" with someone? What biblical steps should you take?
4. What kinds of things make you anxious? Take a moment right now to pray through Philippians 4:4-7 verse by verse.
5. What do you think about when your mind isn't occupied? What is most challenging in light of Paul's suggested parameters?
6. Paul presents himself to the Philippians as a reliable model of Jesus Christ. What would need to change in your life/attitude to present yourself as a good example to others? Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you, lead you and guide you every step of the way!

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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